

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods for protecting, modulating and/or improving the dermal/epidermal junctions of the skin, scalp and/or mucous membranes are described wherein a preparation comprising at least one substance which effects a modulation of one or more dermal/epidermal junction components selected from the group consisting of plectin/HD1, entactin/nidogen, percalan and combinations thereof, is applied to the skin, scalp, and/or mucous membrane. Plant extracts and other compounds useful in such methods and cosmetic preparations containing such substances are also described.